

# Recycling Guidelines



**Caring about our City, Planet, and Future!  
WE ARE HIGH POINT!**



May 2012

## What to do with needles?

For the safety of employees, **DO NOT** place needles in the garbage or recycling carts. Place needles in a Sharps approved container (order from local drug stores).

Call **Customer Service, 883-3111**, and the City will send someone to your home, collect these containers, and safely dispose of them at **no cost to residents—FREE** (no businesses).



## Garbage in your recycling cart?

The label on the lid of the recycling cart provides basic information on what is acceptable to place in the carts. Placing garbage in the recycling cart is not only unacceptable and a violation, but increases the cost to provide this service for everyone.

If garbage is placed in the recycling cart, the cart will be tagged as a violation and not collected. If violations continue, the violations may result in fines and/or the recycling cart being removed.

## Collection Schedule

Collection for recycling is done on the same day as your trash collection only every other week. If you are unsure of what week your recycling collection is scheduled for, visit the City's website at [www.highpointnc.gov](http://www.highpointnc.gov), find the link for Every-Other-Week Recycling Collection and enter your address. If you have more questions, please contact Customer Service (883-3111).

## Questions?

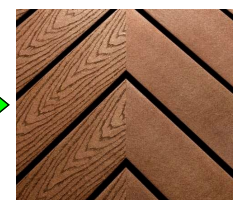
If you have questions about cart placement, collection schedules, cart replacement, extra materials, overflow/excess material, drop-off sites, missed collections, or care for your cart, please call Customer Service at **883-3111**.

For more information, call **336-883-3111**, TDD 336-883-8517, or visit [www.highpointnc.gov](http://www.highpointnc.gov)

This information will be provided in an alternate format for people with visual impairments.

## What to do with plastic bags?

Plastic bags increase sorting costs and clog machinery at the MRF. **Please collect and return all plastic bags to stores - they are recyclable!** Stores have recycling centers for these bags. These bags are collected and recycled into composite deck/wood materials.



## What to do with electronics?

On July 1, 2011, the State of North Carolina banned all televisions and computer equipment from landfills (which include laptops, desktops, monitors, printers, scanners, fax machines, and mice/keyboards, as well as all TVs) (Session Law 2010-67, Senate Bill 887).

As a result, the City of High Point no longer collects these items for disposal with regular collection. However, these items are **recyclable**, along with all other electrical products with cords.



Residents may bring all of these electronic items to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) for **FREE** disposal/recycling. **DO NOT** place these items in your recycling cart for recycling.

Please contact Customer Service at **883-3111** or visit, [www.highpointnc.gov](http://www.highpointnc.gov) for electronic drop-off times and locations.



## Dear High Point Residents

During the past two years, the City has made a successful transition to 95-gallon recycling carts and every-other-week recycling collection. The main purpose behind this change was to increase recycling rates and save taxpayer dollars.

As a result of the new carts, recycling tonnage has increased by nearly 35% (Summer 2011) and solid waste collection budget was reduced by over \$500,000 due to automation.

As the City strives to continue to provide exceptional recycling services, we ask that you please take a few minutes to read these guidelines regarding the collection of recyclables. We will continue to assist and ensure you receive the best possible recycling service.

If you have any questions or concerns about your solid waste services, call Customer Service at **883-3111** or visit us at: [www.highpointnc.gov](http://www.highpointnc.gov).

## Why recycle? Does it really matter?

Recycling saves landfill space, preserves our natural resources, lowers oil imports, and protects the environment. It is one of the easiest ways to make a difference for the environment and planet.

If you look at your weekly garbage contents, most people find that you can recycle more than half (50%) of what is normally thrown away.

The City of High Point is unique in having its own Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and has the potential to earn revenues that can ultimately save taxpayers' money. When you place your recyclable items into your recycling cart, we can sell those items and use the funds to help sustain our recycling program. It also diverts waste from the landfill and extends the life of our landfill. **Recycle and make a difference today!**



## What can you recycle?

The City accepts many items for recycling. Below is a list of items you may place in your recycling cart:

- **Plastics:** #1 PETE, #2 HDPE & #3 thru #7; drink bottles, milk jugs, detergent bottles, butter tubs, and all other plastic containers (lids & labels accepted).



- **Mixed paper:** includes newspaper, office paper, cereal/food boxes, phone books, magazines, books, junk mail, and more. Shredded paper should be placed in a "clear" plastic bag.

- **Cardboard:** any and all corrugated boxes, pizza boxes (no food in box); flatten for better storage and volume reduction.



- **Aluminum/metal cans:** emptied & rinsed. Labels do not have to be removed.

- **Glass bottles and jars:** emptied and rinsed.



## What happens to your recyclables?

City staff at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) sorts all of your recyclables and sells the products to vendors and manufacturers. When sold, the products are re-used or made into other products.



- **Plastics:** These are made into carpet, jacket liners, clothing, deck furniture, plastic products, toys, and much more.



- **Cans:** Aluminum cans are recycled into more aluminum cans again and again. Metal cans are recycled into various steel products.



- **Glass:** Recycled into more glass products, jewelry, tile, counter tops, and more.



- **Mixed paper & cardboard:** Recycled into other paper products such as newspaper, greeting cards, hand towels, insulation, and much more.

**Recycling paper saves millions**

## Please, none of the following...

While many materials are recyclable, some materials do not have local markets, are not feasible to recycle, or may be dangerous in the waste stream and increase sorting costs.

- **NO needles** or medical waste
- **NO plastic bags** (*recycle at store*)
- **NO** styrofoam, bubble wrap, etc.
- **NO** household hazardous waste
- **NO** clothing, shoes, or etc.
- **NO** light bulbs or window glass
- **NO** scrap metal, pots/pans, foil
- **NO** garden hoses, blinds, or other household items
- **NO** paints or construction materials
- **NO** garbage or yard waste in recycling carts

